

Dear Judiciary Committee,

I am sending this email in support H.B. 6491, An Act Permitting Persons to Protect Themselves Using Non-Lethal Defensive Instruments. You MUST pass this bill in order to make Connecticut law conform to the United States Supreme Court's ruling in *Caetano v. Massachusetts* finding that bans on non-lethal defensive instruments are unconstitutional.

Tasers and stun guns are excellent alternative to firearms in cases of self defense, and may be legally owned by citizens in 48 out of the 50 states. Current law only allows Connecticut citizens to own electronic defense weapons in the home, but are not allowed to carry the devices outside of their home. This must change. The state government of CT is out of touch with the vast majority of the rest of the country and I disagree with the state dictating how, when, or with what I can defend myself with. Self defense is a God-given, fundamental right of all living creatures, and must not be infringed. In fact the 2nd Amendment is a restriction on government restricting citizen's right to bear arms not a restriction on citizens. Electronic self defense weapons offer a less than lethal alternative to firearms in one's defense and furtherment of LIFE, LIBERTY, and the pursuit of HAPPINESS.

Regards,

Ed Maccio